

## Message Text

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PAGE 01     PRETOR 05448 141828Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00  
ICAIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 HA-05 /091 W  
-----026415 141834Z /47

O R 141801Z SEP 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2544  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 5448

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG, PDEV, SF, WA  
SUBJECT: NAMIBA: SOUTH AFRICA'S RESPONSE TO THE SYG PLAN

REF: PRETORIA 5441

1. FOURIE'S CONVERSATION WITH BRITISH AMBASSADOR SCOTT SUGGESTS TO US THAT THE SAG, AT LEAST PIK BOTHA AND COLLEAGUES, ARE HOPING FOR FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS OR GESTURES WHICH WOULD JUSTIFY A CABINET DECISION TO MOVE AHEAD ON THE UN PLAN. WE WERE STRUCK PARTICULARLY BY FOURIE'S CHARACTERIZATION OF PHILLIPS' SUPPORTING PAPER AS "HIGHLY LOGICAL" AND ALSO BY HIS GLOOMY PROGNOSIS THAT THE SAG WOULD VERY LIKELY FIND THE COMPOSITION OF UN FORCES UNACCEPTABLE DESPITE PRIOR CONSULTATION.

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2. WE SHOULD TRY TO EXPLOIT THE VIEW WHICH APPARENTLY EXISTS AMONG AT LEAST SOME SOUTH AFRICAN LEADERS THAT THE TROOP FIGURE REQUESTED BY PHILLIP IS IN FACT LOGICAL. THE CONTACT GROUP MIGHT CONSIDER SUGGESTING TO AHTISAARI THAT HE INVITE THE SA DELEGATION TO UN (EKSTEEN) TO HAVE GENERAL GELDENHUYS, COMMANDER, SWA COMMAND, COME TO NEW YORK FOR TECHNICAL CONSULTATIONS WITH

PHILLIP. SUCH A VISIT COULD BE EXPLAINED AS INTENDED PRIMARILY TO DISCUSS TECHNICAL PROBLEMS REGARDING THE INITIAL INTRODUCTION OF UN TROOPS SHOULD THE UN PLAN BE IMPLEMENTED. PHILLIP COULD USE THE OCCASION TO DISCUSS WITH GELDENHUYS THE JUSTIFICATION FOR THE 7500 FIGURE. IN ADDITION, PHILLIP COULD UNDERScore TO GELDENHUYS THAT THIS IS A MAXIMUM FIGURE WHICH MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT BE REACHED, AND THAT AS A MATTER OF PRACTICAL NECESSITY, HE AND AHTISAARI WOULD BE CONSULTING WITH GELDENHUYS AND STEYN ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE UN CONTINGENTS THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS. PHILLIP MIGHT ALSO POINT OUT THAT A FORMAL COMMITMENT TO CONSULT ON THE NUMBER OF TROOPS AT ANY ONE TIME WOULD HAVE TO BE EXTENDED TO ALL PARTIES AND THIS WOULD RESULT IN UNDESIRABLE COMPLICATIONS AND DISPUTES. THIS PROPOSED EXCHANGE IN NEW YORK WOULD IN FACT MANIFEST THE DE FACTO CONSULTATIONS WITH THE SAG THAT WILL BE NECESSARY ON THE INTRODUCTION OF UN TROOPS IF ONLY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REASONS. PHILLIP-GELDENHUYS DISCUSSION AT THIS POINT MIGHT ASSIST BOTH IN CONVINCING THE CABINET THAT THE SAG'S NEEDS REGARDING CONSULTATIONS ON TROOP LEVELS HAD BEEN SATISFIED.

3. AT THE SAME TIME, WE COULD TACKLE THE COMPOSITION ISSUE BY URGING THE SYG TO FLOAT WITH SOUTH AFRICA A PRELIMINARY LIST OF COUNTRIES FROM WHICH HE PROPOSES TO REQUEST UNTAG CONTINGENTS. THIS PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION  
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COULD RELIEVE THE SAG OF FEARS THAT IT MIGHT BE STUCK WITH "A NUMBER OF TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE CONTINGENTS." IF THE SAG CAN BE REASONABLY ASSURED OF SATISFACTION ON THE COMPOSITION ISSUE, THIS COULD OVERCOME ITS DIFFICULTY IN ACCEPTING THE 7500 FIGURE. PERHAPS WALDHEIM COULD PASS THE PRELIMINARY LIST THROUGH THE SOUTH AFRICAN MISSION IN NEW YORK AND, IN ADDITION, PHILLIP COULD INFORMALLY REVIEW WITH GELDENHUYS THE MILITARY RATIONALE FOR THE NATIONAL CONTINGENTS.  
EDMONDSON

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, SECRETARY GENERAL, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Subject:** NAMIBA: SOUTH AFRICA'S RESPONSE TO THE SYG PLAN  
**TAGS:** PORG, PDEV, SF, WA, UNGA  
**To:** STATE USUN NEW YORK  
**Type:** TE  
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